

Local

TURNING BACK THE PAGES

50 YEARS AGO from the Democrat-Herald January 2, 1971

NAMPA — The Baker Bulldogs ended their preseason schedule Saturday night with a 48-25 win over the Nampa Bulldogs.

Hitting on 42 percent of their shots from the field, while holding the home team to only a 19 percent completion mark, the Baker team completed their preseason schedule with a 4-2 record.

25 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald January 2, 1996

Baker County probably has the most drug and alcohol counselors per capita in Oregon, yet relatively few Baker County teens get help with substance abuse problems here.

That's because treatment is more likely to be successful in a setting far removed from friends and family, where the temptations remain to continue drinking and drugging.

10 YEARS AGO from the Baker City Herald January 3, 2011

Interstate 84 was closed in both directions for more than three hours Friday afternoon after cars on a Union Pacific train hauling ore from a copper mine derailed near Weatherby, about 30 miles southeast of Baker City.

About six cars from the westbound train went off the rails about 11:30 a.m., said Mark Bennett, Baker County's director of emergency management.

No one was hurt.

Police closed all lanes of the freeway while workers confirmed that the train's cargo didn't pose a danger to the public.

ONE YEAR AGO from the Baker City Herald January 1, 2020

An attorney representing Verizon Wireless argues that the Baker City Planning Commission violated a federal law on Dec. 4 when it denied the company's application for a conditional use permit to build a 70-foot cell tower in north Baker City.

Verizon has appealed the Planning Commission's 5-2 vote to the Baker City Council.

The City Council will consider the appeal during a public hearing Tuesday, Jan. 7, at 7 p.m. at City Hall.

Verizon's appeal was filed by E. Michael Connors, an attorney with the Portland firm Hathaway Larson.

He claims, among other things, that the Planning Commission's denial "violates the Federal Telecommunications Act because it prohibits or would have the effect of prohibiting the provision of wireless services in the City."

Connors also writes that if the city denies Verizon's application, "it would be virtually impossible for Verizon to site a tower to resolve the significant gap in coverage and capacity in the City. That would be a clear-cut violation of the Federal Telecommunications Act."

The majority of the Planning Commission concluded that concerns about how the proposed 70-foot tower would affect views — a complaint several residents expressed to the Commission — could not be mitigated except by requiring Verizon to limit the tower's height to 50 feet. That's the maximum the city's zoning ordinance allows without a conditional-use permit.

OREGON LOTTERY

MEGABUCKS, Dec. 30

5 — 10 — 34 — 36 — 42 — 44
Next jackpot: \$6.5 million

POWERBALL, Dec. 30

3 — 43 — 45 — 61 — 65 PB 14
Next jackpot: \$384 million

MEGA MILLIONS, Dec. 29

1 — 31 — 35 — 48 — 62 Mega 19
Next jackpot: \$401 million

WIN FOR LIFE, Dec. 30

21 — 33 — 57 — 61

PICK 4, Dec. 31

• 1 p.m.: 6 — 9 — 9 — 9

• 4 p.m.: 7 — 3 — 4 — 1

• 7 p.m.: 5 — 7 — 0 — 4

• 10 p.m.: 0 — 8 — 5 — 2

LUCKY LINES, Dec. 31

4-5-12-16-19-21-27-29

Next jackpot: \$71,000

SENIOR MENUS

- **MONDAY (Jan. 4):** Boneless chicken breast, cream gravy, mashed potatoes, mixed blend vegetables, roll, coleslaw, cookies
- **TUESDAY (Jan. 5):** Breaded pork loin, red potatoes, peas and carrots, roll, fruit ambrosia, brownies
- **WEDNESDAY (Jan. 6):** Spaghetti with beef sauce, capri vegetables, garlic bread, green salad, cake
- **THURSDAY (Jan. 7):** Roasted turkey with cranberries, stuffing, green beans, roll, beet-and-onion salad, cheesecake

Public luncheon at the Senior Center, 2810 Cedar St., 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; \$4.50 donation (60 and older), \$6.75 for those under 60. Meals must be picked up; there is no dining on site.

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8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

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Baker City Herald

ISSN-8756-6419
Serving Baker County since 1870

Published Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays except Christmas Day by the Baker Publishing Co., a part of EO Media Group, at 1668 Resort St. (P.O. Box 807), Baker City, OR 97814.

Subscription rates per month are: Baker City (97814), \$10.80; all others, \$12.50.

Postmaster: Send address changes to the Baker City Herald, P.O. Box 807, Baker City, OR 97814.

Periodicals Postage Paid
at Pendleton, Oregon 97801

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STUDENTS

Continued from Page 1A

"I will be working closely with the Baker County Health Department to determine if they believe they have the capacity to effectively manage the contact tracing necessary to accommodate these larger cohort sizes," Witty said.

The superintendent doesn't expect to make any changes before the second semester starts on Jan. 25. Witty said elementary students will continue to attend in-person classes each school day, as they have since Oct. 14.

"I'm appreciative of the governor's change in practice," Witty said. "Allowing some of these decisions to be made at

the local level shows a measure of trust for those of us who have been practicing in-person school in a responsible, safe manner."

Eight district students and six employees have tested positive for COVID-19. Witty said investigations showed those people were infected somewhere other than at school.

HEALING

Continued from Page 1A

Denne's interest in Mucuna stems from a personal story — her grandmother died of Alzheimer's disease, and that inspired her to study neuroscience.

After graduating from the University of Portland, she volunteered at Oregon Health & Science University (OHSU) in Portland to study Mucuna and Parkinson's.

In early 2016, she traveled to India for three months to study Mucuna in its native environment, and collect seeds to study.

That same year she started attending Bastyr University in Seattle to pursue a doctorate in naturopathic medicine.

Now, near the end of her academic journey, Denne credits fundraising events in Baker City for supporting her project.

"It's taken a whole community and over a decade, and a huge majority of the original funding and support started in Baker City," she said.

Her research paired well with Baker City's Great Salt Lick Contest and Auction, a fundraiser founded by Whit Deschner to raise money for Parkinson's disease research.

"I'd like to express my gratitude to all the wonderful people and organizations in Baker City that helped facilitate the ethnobotanical research trip to India," Denne said. "Through Whit Deschner's generous Salt Lick Auction, the Lions Club and many supportive individuals we were able to launch a successful research project that is still continuing and expanding to this day."

Mucuna progress

During her studies at Bastyr, Denne has worked on the Mucuna project by finding a farmer in Hawaii who could



Contributed Photo

Tanya Denne with a Mucuna plant. The plant's seeds contain a substance, levodopa, that are used to treat Parkinson's disease.

grow the seeds she brought from India. She's also experimented with seed extracts and worked with colleagues from Bastyr and OHSU who have used the extracts in animal model studies.

"It's this really cool, multifaceted project," Denne said.

She said results from the mice model showed increased TH (tyrosine hydroxylase), which suggests a neurorestorative property of



Contributed Photo

Tanya Denne graduated from the University of Portland and will graduate this year from Bastyr University in Seattle with a degree in naturopathic medicine.

OBITUARIES

Wendi Page

Baker City, 1969-2020

Wendi (Hughes) Page, 51, of Baker City, died on Dec. 19, 2020.

Wendi was born April 11, 1969, at Idaho Falls, Idaho, to Shawna Louis (Hagberg) Brown and David Ralph Hughes. She attended Boise High School and graduated in 1986. Wendi became a certified nursing aide and spent her nursing career working with autistic children, autistic adults, and elderly people in nursing homes.

She is survived by her mother and stepfather, Shawna and Stoney Brown of Bellevue, Idaho; her father, David Hughes of San Antonio, Texas; her half-brother, Michael D. Hughes of Madison, Wisconsin; her half-sister, Katherine Saara McKnett of Cleveland; and multiple aunts, uncles and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Don

and Nola Hagberg, and Boyd and Carol Hughes.

Wendi loved animals, and the family requests that instead of flowers, please donate to your favorite animal charity through Gray's West & Company Pioneer Chapel, 1500 Dewey Ave., Baker City, OR 97814.

To leave a condolence for Wendi's family, go to www.grayswestco.com

Gene Beeson Jr.

La Grande, and formerly of Sumpter, 1948-2020

Gene Robert Beeson Jr., 72, of La Grande, and formerly of Sumpter, died on Dec. 27, 2020, at Grande Ronde Hospital.

At his request, there will be no service.

Gene, better known as "Butch," was born on Nov. 19, 1948, at Weiser, Idaho, to Gene Sr. and Wanda (Barsky) Beeson. Butch lived life to the fullest. He quit school beginning his senior year and went to work doing just about

anything to make money.

When he turned 18, he went to work for Boise Cascade in the Elgin Plywood plant. He was very happy and loved the outdoors, hunting and fishing. Unfortunately, he was in an accident and he was in a coma for 28 days and was paralyzed on his left side. The doctors said he would never walk again. One day, Butch said he had enough of the bed and got up and started walking again. Baby steps at first and as time went by, he was walking. He went back to school and graduated from Union High School at the age of 21. Butch was married twice and divorced; he was just too much of a free spirit to be tied down.

Butch loved fishing and being outdoors in the woods. He had decided to move to Sumpter where he lived for 25 years. He loved going out mushrooming and gold mining. His favorite activity was going to the Sumpter Nugget and having coffee and talking to the owners and the help. When tourists would come in, Butch would tell them all about the town that he

loved. He loved being around his family and visiting and watching his four nieces and nephews.

Butch is survived by his mother, Wanda; and his brothers, Sailor Thomas Beeson and Christopher S. Beeson.

Online condolences can be made to the family at www.lovelandfuneralchapel.com

Edmond Austin

Formerly of Baker City, 1937-2020

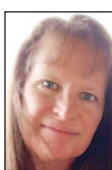
Edmond Charles Austin, 83, a former Baker City resident, died Nov. 16, 2020, at Payette, Idaho.

Ed was born on March 8, 1937, at Haines to Jay and Alta Austin. He lived and attended school in Baker. After graduation he joined the National Guard. He married Jan Cheatham and two sons joined the family.

Ed later moved to Ontario and was a Farmers Insurance Agent for more than 20 years. After Jan passed away he married Sandra Fitchett.

Ed is survived by his wife, Sandra; his sons, Scott Fitchett and Craig Austin; his sister, Mary Rose (Earl) Cheatham; and grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces and nephews.

Ed was preceded in death by his son, Randy; his brother, Jerry; and his parents.



Wendi Page



Gene Beeson



Edmond Austin

NEWS OF RECORD

POLICE LOG

Baker City Police

Arrests, citations
SECOND-DEGREE CRIMINAL TRESPASSING: Edward Allen Braswell, 45, transient, 2:04 a.m. Friday at 515 Campbell St.; jailed.
FAILURE TO APPEAR, FOURTH-DEGREE ASSAULT, HARASSMENT (Baker County warrants): Adrienna Dione Morris, 23, Baker City, 1:28 p.m. Thursday in the 100 block of Bridge Street; jailed.
THIRD-DEGREE THEFT,

SECOND-DEGREE CRIMINAL TRESPASSING: Edward Allen Braswell, 45, transient, 7:07 a.m. Wednesday at 1120 Campbell St.; cited and released.

Baker County Sheriff's Office

Arrests, citations
FAILURE TO APPEAR (Union County Circuit Court warrant), PROBATION VIOLATION (Wallowa County warrant): Kody Allen McManus, 24, Richland, 12:27 p.m. Wednesday at his home; cited and released.

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